

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 4, line 1 as follows:

A The present invention concerns polyols with high reactivity and high hydrophobicity that are obtainable by reacting saturated or unsaturated fatty acids or esters of fatty acids that contain at least one secondary, in particular also a ~~sterically~~ sterically hindered secondary, hydroxyl group, with anhydrides of dicarboxylic acids, in particular cyclic 1,2-dicarboxylic acids, more preferred hexahydrophthalic acid, followed by esterification by means of polyhydroxy compounds, in particular glycols. Preferred fatty acids or esters of fatty acids, respectively, are ricinoleic acid or castor oil.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 11, line 1 as follows:

A2 ~~320 g neopentylglykol neopentylglycol and 320 g trimethylol-propane~~ were added to said batch and a final esterification was performed during about 1 1/2 hours at 245°C to 250°C. During the reaction, about 70 ml condensate were removed by distillation. After cooling and bottling of the batch, a polyester polyol with the following specifications was obtained:

Aspect:	yellow, clear, viscous liquid
KOH-value:	295
Hydroxyl equivalent:	190 g/eq.
Water content:	0.1 %
Viscosity (23°C)	10'600 mPas

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 11, line 17 as follows:

Example 2:

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To a laboratory reactor with stirrer and distillation head, 920 g castor oil of quality "first pressing", water content of at most 0.25 %, were added, with stirring, 320 g succinic anhydride in powder form were added to said castor oil. Then 4 g esterification catalyst (antimony trioxide) were added and (in order to avoid too extensive sublimation of succinic anhydride in the reactor) the mixture was slowly heated to 170°C within 20 minutes and with further stirring for half-ester formation. 720 g ~~neopentyl glykol~~ neopentyl glycol were added to said batch and a final esterification was performed during about 2 hours at 240°C. During the final esterification, about 80 ml distillate with a high content of neopentylglycol were collected. After cooling and bottling of the batch, a polyester polyol with the following specifications was obtained:

Aspect:	yellow, clear, viscous liquid
KOH-value:	261
Hydroxyl equivalent:	215 g/eq.
Water content:	<0,1 %
Viscosity (23°C)	1'500 mPas

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 12, line 15 as follows:

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Then about 480 g ~~neopentylglykol~~ neopentylglycol and 120 g of granular pentaerythritol propane were added and a final esterification was performed during about 1 ½ hours at 245°C to 250°C. While neopentylglycol readily dissolved, pentaerythritol

remained undissolved until about 220°C. AT the end no bubble formation due to condensate cleavage (water) could be observed anymore. During cooling, at about 210°C, again about 5 ml distillate were removed under vacuum in order to improve the drying, such that a total of 76 ml distillate were collected. After cooling and bottling of the batch, a polyester polyol with the following specifications was obtained:

Aspect: yellow, slightly turbid viscous liquid
KOH-value: 261
Hydroxyl equivalent: 215 g/eq.
Water content: <0,1 %
Viscosity (23°C) 10'000 mPas

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 13, line 6 as follows:

Then 280 g ~~neopentylglykol~~ neopentylglycol and 280 g granular pentaerythritol are added and a final esterification is performed during about 1 ½ hours at 245°C to 250°C. While neopentylglycol readily dissolved, pentaerythritol remained undissolved until about 220°C. At the end no bubble formation due to condensate cleavage (water) could be observed anymore. During cooling, at about 210°C, again about 7 ml distillate were removed under vacuum in order to improve the drying, such that a total of 70 ml distillate was collected. After cooling and bottling of the batch, a polyester polyol with the following specifications was obtained:

Aspect: yellow, viscous liquid with medium turbidity
KOH-value: 280

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Hydroxyl equivalent: 200 g/eq.
Water content: <0,1 %
Viscosity (23°C) 34'000 mPas.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 14, line 3 as follows:

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340 g ~~neopentylglycol~~ neopentylglycol and 400 g trimethylol-propane were added to the above described batch and a final esterification was performed during about 1 ½ hours at 245°C to 250°C. At the end, no bubble formation due to condensate cleavage (water) was observable in the batch anymore. During the final esterification, a total of about 120 ml condensate was obtained. After cooling and bottling of the batch, a polyester polyol with the following specifications was obtained:

Aspect: yellow, clear, viscous liquid
KOH-value: 274
Hydroxyl equivalent: 205 g/eq.
Water content: 0,1 %
Viscosity (23°C): 12'000 mPas
